In the Claims

Please rewrite Claims 1, 5-7, 13, 16, 20, 22, 23, 30, 42, 46, 50, and 54 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for conducting electronic transactions, the method comprising:

    (a)   establishing a first communication connection to a provider from a consumer;

    (b)   submitting to the provider a request for a transaction;

    (c)   processing said transaction, and generating electronic certificate data;

    (d)   establishing a second communication connection from said provider to said consumer's printer;

    (e)   transmitting said electronic certificate data at least partially contained within an image file to said consumer's printer; and

    (f)   controlling the printing of an electronic certificate by the provider to print the certificate on said consumer's printer.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said processing includes:

    (g)   confirming said consumer identification information; and

    (h)   confirming said printer identification information.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said establishing communication connection includes:

    (g)   said provider confirming that said printer has sufficient supplies; and

    (h)   said provider replenishing said printer with supplies.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further including

    (g)   providing an identification indicia for printing on said electronic certificate;

    (h)   transmitting said identification indicia data along with said image file to said consumer's printer; and

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(i)   printing said identification indicia on said electronic certificate.

13.   (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said printing includes:

(g)   printing an original stamp.

16.   (Amended) The method of claim 1 further including:

(g)   requesting said consumer to make a payment for said electronic transaction; and

(h)   confirming said payment.

20.   (Amended) A method for conducting electronic transactions, the method comprising:

(a)   requesting a transaction from a provider;

(b)   transmitting authorized document data at least partially contained within an image file to a consumer's printer that is under direct control of said provider in response to said transaction; and

(c)   printing said authorized document with said consumer's printer.

22.   (Amended) The method of claim 21, further including:

(e)   said provider directly confirming that said consumer's printer has sufficient supplies to print said authorized document; and

(f)   one of said provider automatically replenishing said consumer's printer with supplies.

23.   (Amended) A system for issuing and printing authentic certificates for a consumer, comprising:

(a)   a provider information processing system that receives request for an authentic certificate and generates said authentic certificate, said processing system providing printing instructions for printing said authentic certification;

(b)   a network connecting said processing system to a plurality of user's; and

(c)   a printer connected to a point on said network in communication with said provider information processing system, such that said consumer's printer

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receives authentic certificate data and printing instructions from said provider information processing system and prints the authentic certificate according to said printing instructions, at least one of the authentic certificate data and printing instructions at least partially contained within an image file.

30.   (Amended) A printing device associated with a consumer, comprising:

(a)   means for receiving printing data and printing instructions from a remote provider; and

(b)   means for printing said printing data according to said printing instructions under said remote provider's direct control without involvement of said consumer, wherein when an image file that contains at least a portion of said printing data is present, the image file is printed by the means for printing.

42.   (Amended) A method for checking that a user's printer has sufficient printer supplies by a remote provider, said method comprising:

(a)   establishing communication with said user's printer by said remote provider;

(b)   said remote provider receiving information about said printer supplies; and

(c)   said remote provider determining sufficiency of said printer supplies.

46.   (Amended) A method for printing original documents at a user location, the method comprising:

(a)   establishing communication from a first processor associated with an authorizer of the printing of the original document to a user printer at the user location, the communication including transfer of an image file containing at least a portion of the original document;

(b)   printing the original document with the user printer; and

(c)   controlling (b) independent of a printer driver on a computer at the user location.